REMARKS

Claims 1 through 22 were presented for examination and were rejected.

The claims remain unchanged.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration in light of the following comments.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejection of Claims 1-22

Claims 1 through 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by S.T. Wong, U.S. Patent 6,557,102, issued 29 April 2003 (hereinafter "Wong"). The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites:

> **1.** (original) A method comprising:
>
> *hashing at a first processor a first resource identifier to create a hash key, wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource;*
>
> transmitting from said first processor to a second processor said hash key and a request for said first resource; and
>
> receiving at said first processor a second resource in response to the transmission of said hash key and said request for said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 1 recites – namely transmitting a hash function of a resource identifier of a first resource from a first processor to a second processor with a request for the first resource. A careful reading of Wong confirms this.

The Office action states:

> hashing at a first processor (i.e.: a client computer) a first resource identifier to create a hash key, wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource [Wong, the computer 12 compute hashes H and form identifiers, col 4 lines 17-39; the hash H corresponding to the identifier ID, col 4 lines 40-65];

The applicants respectfully disagree.

Wong teaches hashing of the resource, not the hashing of the resource identifier. A resource and a resource identifier are not the same thing.

Wong teaches that computer 12 hashes the resource – "the modified image data I_d^+" – to create the hash key.

> Next, in steps 44, 46, and 48 a hash H is computed from *the modified image* ***data*** $I_d^{\pm}$ . . .
>
> Wong, Col. 5, lines 49 through 50.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

At two other parts of the patent, Wong explains what the "the modified image data I_d^{+}" is.

> The modified image data I_d^{+} is formed by concatenating the image data N of length L_N and the balance of the image data L of length L_L-n.
>
> Wong, Col. 5, lines 46 through 48.

and

> . . . in step 38 the image data I_d is compressed if desired, using a known compression algorithm, such as JPEG. For purposes of discussion, the compressed image data, or the raw image data if no compression was performed, is denoted L and its length L_L. Then in step 40, the first n bytes of this possibly compressed image data L is encrypted to form the data $N=E_K(n)$, having a length L_N, where E is a secret key encryption function and K is the secret key.
>
> Wong, Col. 5, lines 4 through 12.

In summary, the modified image data I_d^{+} does not comprise an identifier of the image data, and, therefore, Wong fails to teach or suggest the hashing of the resource identifier. An additional portion of Wong corroborates this view. At Col. 5, lines 49 through 53, Wong explicitly teaches that the hash key and the resource identifier are separate.

> Next, in steps 44, 46, and 48 a hash H is computed from the modified image data I_d^{+}, an identifier ID is formed from pertinent portions of the identifying information II extracted from the modified image header I_H^{+}, *and the hash/identifier pair are sent to the authentication server*.
>
> Wong, Col. 5, lines 49 through 53
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

The Office action continues:

> transmitting from said first processor to a second processor (i.e.: a second computer, or server) said hash key and a request for said first resource [Wong, send the corresponding hash/identifier pair to an authenticated server 32, col 4 lines 17-65; col 5 lines 49-59];

The applicants respectfully disagree.

Wong does not teach transmitting the hash key and a request for the resource. Rather Wong teaches (Step 48 in Figure 3) transmitting a hash key and an ID of the

resource (to be recorded in authentication server 32 and time-stamped). This is clearly described in Wong at Col. 6, lines 10 through 16.

> As shown in FIG. 4, the authentication server 32 in step 60 receives the hash/identifier pair from an acquisition computer 12 and in step 62, generates a timestamp T indicating the time of receipt. In step 64, the *timestamp/hash/identifier trio* are stored in the authentication data store 34 in the form of a database or similar data structure indexed or addressed by the identifier ID.
>
> Wong, Col. 6, lines 10 through 16.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Wong does teach requesting a resource at step 78 (Figure 7) but does not teach or suggest that the request requested resource is identified by the hash key. Wong states:

> Subsequently, when there is a need to retrieve and display the stored image at one of the image display stations 30, a request REQ identifying the needed image, *as by patient name*, is sent from the image display station to image archive server 24.
>
> Wong, Col. 4, lines 40 through 44.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

and

> The steps carried out by a display station 30 are shown in FIG. 7, which are initiated by in step 54 sending a REQ to the image archive server 24 for a particular image or study. The request may be negotiated by an interaction in which the user accesses a database or other search tool maintained by the image archive server, organized by patient names, dates and types of studies.
>
> Wong, Col. 6 lines 36 through 42.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

For these reasons, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 1 is traversed.

Because claims 2 through 7 depend on claim 1, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of them is also traversed.

Independent claim 8 recites:

> **8.** (Original) An apparatus comprising:
>
> *a first processor for hashing a first resource identifier to create a hash key, wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource;*
>
> *a transmitter for transmitting said hash key and a request for said first resource to a second processor;* and

> a receiver for receiving a second resource in response to the transmission of said hash key and said request for said first resource.
>
> (emphasis supplied)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 8 recites – namely transmitting a hash key (of a resource identifier of a first resource) from a first processor to a second processor with a request for the first resource. The reasoning is the same as for claim 1 above, and, therefore the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 8 is traversed.

Because claims 9 through 14 depend on claim 2, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of them is also traversed.

Independent claim 15 recites:

> **15.** (Original) A method comprising:
>
> *receiving a request for a first resource and a hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier*;
>
> retrieving said first resource and said first resource identifier from a data structure that is indexed by said hash key; and
>
> transmitting said first resource and said first resource identifier in response to said request for said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 15 recites – namely receiving a request for a first resource and a hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 15 is traversed.

Independent claim 16 recites:

> **16.** (Original) An apparatus comprising:
>
> a receiver for receiving a request for a first resource and a hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier;
>
> a processor for retrieving said first resource and said first resource identifier from a data structure that is indexed by said hash key; and
>
> a transmitter for transmitting said first resource and said first resource identifier in response to said request for said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 16 recites – namely a receiver for receiving a request for a first resource and a hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 16 is traversed.

Independent claim 17 recites:

> **17.** (Original) A method comprising:
>
> *receiving at a first processor a first resource identifier that identifies a first resource, a hash key that is a hashed function of said first resource identifier, and a request for a first resource*;
>
> retrieving a second resource and a second resource identifier from a data structure that is indexed by said hash key;
>
> verifying that said second resource is said first resource by comparing said second resource identifier to said first resource identifier; and
>
> transmitting said second resource to said first processor when said second resource is verified as said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 17 recites – namely receiving at a first processor a first resource identifier that identifies a first resource, a hash key that is a hashed function of said first resource identifier, and a request for a first resource. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 17 is traversed.

Independent claim 18 recites:

> **18.** (Original) An apparatus comprising:
>
> *a receiver for receiving at a first processor a first resource identifier that identifies a first resource, a hash key that is a hashed function of said first resource identifier, and a request for a first resource*;
>
> a processor for retrieving a second resource and a second resource identifier from a data structure that is indexed by said hash key, and for verifying that said second resource is said first resource by comparing said second resource identifier to said first resource identifier; and
>
> a transmitter for transmitting said second resource to said first processor when said second resource is verified as said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 18 recites – namely a receiver for receiving at a first processor a first resource identifier that identifies a first resource, a hash key that is a hashed function of said first resource identifier, and a request for a first resource. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 18 is traversed.

Independent claim 19 recites:

> **19.** (Original) A method comprising:
>
> hashing at a first processor a first resource identifier to create a hash key, wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource;
>
> transmitting from said first processor to a second processor said hash key and a request for said first resource when said all or a portion of said hash key is contained in a list of valid hash keys associated with said first processor; and
>
> receiving at said first processor said first resource in response to the transmission of said hash key and said request for said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 19 recites – namely hashing at a first processor a first resource identifier to create a hash key, wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 19 is traversed.

Independent claim 20 recites:

> **20.** (Original) An apparatus comprising:
>
> a processor for hashing at a first processor a first resource identifier to create a hash key, *wherein said first resource identifier identifies a first resource*, and for verifying that all or a portion of said hash key is contained in a list of valid hash keys;
>
> *a transmitter for transmitting from said first processor to a second processor said hash key and a request for said first resource*; and
>
> a receiver for receiving said first resource in response to the transmission of said hash key and said request for said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 20 recites – namely receiving a transmitter for transmitting from said first processor to a second processor said hash key and a request for said first resource. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 20 is traversed.

Independent claim 21 recites:

> **21.** (Original) A method comprising:
>
> *receiving at a first processor a request for a first resource and a first hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier;*
>
> retrieving a second resource and a first portion of a second hash key from a data structure that is indexed by a first portion of said first hash key;

> verifying that said second resource is said first resource by comparing a second portion of said first hash key to said first portion of said second hash key; and
>
> transmitting said second resource to said first processor when said second resource is verified as said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 21 recites – namely receiving at a first processor a request for a first resource and a first hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier. For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 21 is traversed.

Independent claim 22 recites:

> **22.** (Original) An apparatus comprising:
>
> *a receiver for receiving at a first processor a request for a first resource and a first hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier;*
>
> a processor for retrieving a second resource and a first portion of a second hash key from a data structure that is indexed by a first portion of said first hash key, and for verifying that said second resource is said first resource by comparing a second portion of said first hash key to said first portion of said second hash key; and
>
> a transmitter for transmitting said second resource to said first processor when said second resource is verified as said first resource.
>
> (*emphasis supplied*)

Nowhere does Wong teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 22recites – namely a receiver for receiving at a first processor a request for a first resource and a first hash key that is a hashed function of a first resource identifier For this reason, the applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 22 is traversed.

Request for Reconsideration Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Having responded to each and every ground for objection and rejection in the Office action mailed 1 September 2004, applicants request reconsideration of the instant application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111 and request that the Examiner allow all of the pending claims and pass the application to issue.

Should there remain unresolved issues the applicants respectfully request that Examiner telephone the applicants' attorney at 732-578-0103 x11 so that those issues can be resolved as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,
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